



PRINCE ACADEMY

OF HIGHER EDUCATION

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SAMPLE PAPER 2024-25

CLASS - X

Time : 03.00 Hours

ENGLISH LANGUAGE & LITERATURE (184)

M. M. : 80

General Instructions :

1. All questions are compulsory.
2. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

SECTION - A (Reading Skills)

1. Read the passage given below :

10

- (i) Child marriages are rampant in North India. They continue to blight the lives of people. Children bound by marriage are victims of blind customs and superstitions prevalent in rural areas and certain urban concentrations among the weaker socio-economic groups. Nothing seems to stop this anti-social practice despite the Child Marriage Act passed as early as in 1929, which makes child marriage a grave offence.
- (ii) Why do child marriages take place and what can be done to prevent them from happening? The evil thrives because of illiteracy and other related causes-the most important of which is the anxiety of parents to marry off their daughters at the earliest. In many high-illiteracy states, like Rajasthan, the practice of child marriage is in vogue. Akhha Teej is D-day for the parents of minor girls, since on that day, the parents seek salvation from the anxiety of girls growing up in their midst.
- (iii) A child marriage is less likely to take place if the parents are literate or at least the father is. He is, then, aware of the legal minimum age for marriage and the health hazards his daughter will face by an early marriage. If the mother, otherwise literate, has been exposed to the importance of family planning, she is also less likely to solemnise her daughter's wedding before the legal minimum age.
- (iv) Among the other reasons that parents give away young daughters in marriage is the need, felt especially by families with more than one daughter, to keep wedding expenses down. By marrying two daughters simultaneously, parents save on expenses. Parental anxiety about grown-up (14 years and above) daughters going astray, forces the less educated to give away their female children in marriage.
- (v) The Child Marriage Restraint Act in 1978, raised the minimum age of marriage for girls from 15 to 18 years and for boys from 18 to 21 years. The committee, status of women, in its report in 1974, had recommended that all offences under the Child Marriage Restraint Act should be made cognizable and special officers be appointed to enforce the law.
- (vi) The crux of the problem is that the role of a girl-child in traditional rural areas is circumscribed around marriage and motherhood.

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below.

(a) Complete the following.

1

In the passage, the primary concern of the author is regarding

(b) Why does the evil practice of child marriage still thrive?

2

(c) Why do parents marry two daughters simultaneously?

1

(d) In what circumstances will a child marriage be less likely to take place?

2

(e) 'They continue to blight the lives of people'. Substitute the underlined word with the most appropriate option from the following. 1

- (i) Curse (ii) Ruin (iii) Bloom (iv) Brighten

(f) Based on your understanding of the passage, choose the INCORRECT statement from the following. 1

(i) A child marriage is less likely to take place if the parents are literate or at least the father is.

(ii) By marrying two daughters simultaneously, parents save on expenses.

(iii) Child marriages are rampant in South India.

(iv) Children bound by marriage are victims of blind customs and superstitions.

(g) Choose the option that correctly states the two meanings of 'salvation', as used in the passage. 1

A. Converting to Christianity

B. Being saved from danger or ruin

C. Harming others

D. Preservation from harm

E. Adopting priesthood

(i) A and E

(ii) C and D

(iii) B and D

(iv) A and D

(h) The minimum age of marriage for boys has been raised to 18 years from 16 years. (True/False) 1

2. Read the following passage carefully.

10

- (i) According to a new study, a vast blanket of pollution stretching across South Asia is cutting down sunlight by 10 percent over India, damaging agriculture, modifying rainfall patterns and putting hundreds of thousands of people at risk.
- (ii) It is said, "Acids in the haze may, by falling as acid rain, have the potential to damage crops and trees. Ash falling on leaves can aggravate the impact of reduced sunlight on the Earth's surface. The pollution that is forming the haze could be leading to several hundreds of thousands of premature deaths as a result of higher levels of respiratory diseases."
- (iii) "The haze has cut down sunlight over India by 10 percent (so far) – a huge amount! As a repercussion, the North-West of India is drying up," Prof. V. Ramanathan said when asked specifically about the impact of the haze over India. He said, "We are still in an early stage of understanding of the impact of the haze."
- (iv) Prof. V. Ramanathan was asked whether the current droughts in most parts of India after over a decade of good monsoons was owing to the haze. He said, "It was too early to reach a conclusion. If the droughts persist for about four to five years, then we would start suspecting that it may be because of the haze." India, China and Indonesia are the worst affected owing to their population density, economic growth and depleting forest cover.

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below.

(a) Infer one reason for the following based on the information in paragraph 1 2

In India, rainfall patterns are changing.

(b) How is the pollution spreading across South Asia affecting India? 2

(c) Complete the following analogy correctly with a word/phrase from paragraph possibility::: suspecting : doubting 1

(d) Select the correct option to complete the sentence. 1
.....droughts were caused by the haze.

(i) Strong evidence suggested that

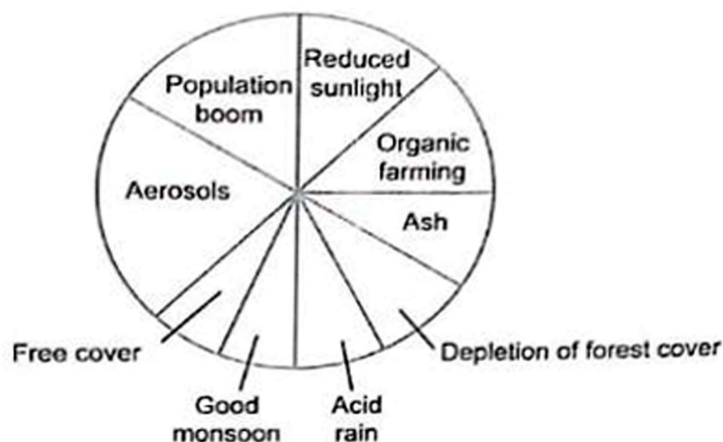
(ii) Past surveys confirmed that

(iii) There has not been enough time to determine that

(iv) Superstitious people believe that

(e) From the following pie chart, identify one reason each which does and does not contribute to weather disruption:

1



(f) Fill in the blank by selecting the correct option.

1

Ash falling on leaves can the impact of reduced sunlight on the Earth's surface.

- (i) worsen (ii) encourage
(iii) diminish (iv) support

(g) Substitute the word 'repercussion' with one word similar in meaning in the following sentence from paragraph 3.

1

The haze has cut down sunlight over India... As a repercussion, the North-West India is drying up.

(h) Give a suitable title for the given passage

1

Section - B (Grammar)

3. Attempt ANY TEN of the following questions.

1 × 10 = 10

(i) Read the conversation between a mother and her son. Complete the sentence by reporting the mother's reply correctly.

Son: Mom, how do I become an artist?

Mother: You will need to learn more about the art you like and practise it everyday.

A son asked his mother how he could become an artist. She told him

(ii) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete this advertisement.

Are you looking for more books to read? Due to popular demand, weback our 'Buy One Get One Free' offer next weekend!

- (a) brings (b) brought (c) will bring (d) were bringing

(iii) Identify the error in the given sentence and supply the correction.

Many a soldiers has died for the country.

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

(iv) Select the correct option to fill in the blank for the given line, from a doorway sign.

Caution! You not enter.

Only employees are allowed beyond this point.

- (a) need (b) must (c) could (d) might

- (v) Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket, for the given portion of a diary entry:
Dear Diary,
Today I saw the most beautiful sunrise over the ocean. I wish I could (paint) it to truly capture and preserve the beauty I witnessed.
- (vi) Select the option that identifies the error in a museum plaque and supplies the correction for the same.
These building, inaugurated on 29 March 1954, was a former residence of a Maharaja.

Option no..	Error	Correction
A.	These	This
B.	Building	building
C.	on	at
D.	of	by

- (vii) Fill in the blank with the correct option to complete the sentence below.
You must have got good news. I could You celebrating!
(a) hear (b) hears (c) heard (d) hearing
- (viii) Read the conversation between a lawyer and his client. Complete the sentence by reporting the lawyer's reply correctly.
Client: I am worried, this is a very complicated case.
Lawyer: Don't worry, I have never lost a case in my life.
The client was worried as it was a very complicated case, but his lawyer told him
- (ix) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option, to complete the text message below.
Let's meet another day since neither Kavi nor Samantha free today as they have tennis practice.
(a) were (b) are (c) be (d) is
- (x) Select the correct option to complete the narration of the dialogue between Ayan and his mechanic, Vir.
Ayan: By when do you think you can fix my car?
Vir: Probably by tomorrow. I don't think your car has any major issues.
Ayan asked his mechanic Vir when he thought he could fix his car. Vir replied that he could probably fix the car by As it had no major issues.
(a) that day (b) one day (c) tomorrow (d) the next day
- (xi) Identify the error in the advertisement given below and supply the correction for the same.
Looking to Buy a Guitar?
The brand new guitar is for sale. It comes with a wooden, velvet-lined guitar case
If interested, contact me at 99889XXXXX for more details.

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

- (xii) Rishi asked Ali the question given below. Report Rishi's question.
Could you give me some advice on how I could be a better school captain?

SECTION-B (CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS)

4. A. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below.

$$1 \times 5 = 5$$

You are Rakesh Mehta, Secretary of Rainbow Apartments, Marathalli, Bangalore. A major pipeline supplying water to your apartment complex burst recently. Repairs are expected to be time consuming and the available water is insufficient to meet the requirements of residents and staff within the premises. Write a letter to the Area Development Officer, Marathalli Area, Bangalore, in not more than 120 words, requesting him to complete the repair work at the earliest, drawing attention to the difficulties faced by the people and the challenges of procuring water from outside.

OR

B. You are Polly Chawla, a resident of Worli Park, Mumbai. You recently saw a documentary about the youth of the nation titled, 'A Country in Good Hands'. Write a letter of appreciation to the Editor of The Youth Times, in not more than 120 words, drawing her attention to the good that the youngsters around you are doing. Suggest ways in which they can further contribute to the betterment of society.

5. A. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below.

1 × 5 = 5

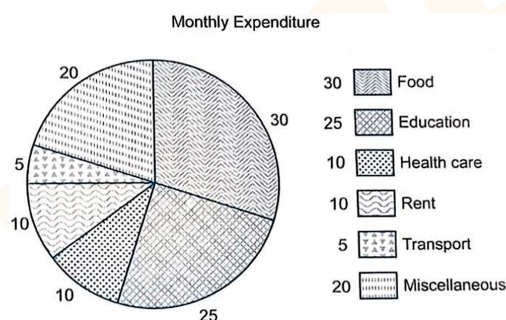
Read the following excerpt from an article in a fashion magazine.

‘Colorism’ is the term describing the preference for lighter skin. Several of the world’s biggest advertising firms have come under severe criticism for selling beauty products that promise whiter skin. What is worse is the manner in which these fairness products are being promoted - the parallel drawn between being fair and being successful; the perfect fair heroine showcased in movies; celebrity endorsements of fairness products; and matrimonial advertisements where everyone seeks a fair bride. This type of advertising has created an inferiority complex among darker skinned women as seen in the rising sales of fairness cosmetics. This form of biased advertising has come under harsh criticism. Are we as a society encouraging and supporting ‘colorism’?

Write a paragraph, in about 100-120 words to analyse the given argument. You could think about what alternative explanations might weaken the given conclusion and include rationale/evidence that would strengthen/counter the given argument.

OR

B. The monthly expenditure of a family is represented in the pie chart shown below.



Write a paragraph, in 100-120 words, analysing the information in the pie chart to support your stand on how the family is using the money wisely

SECTION - C (LITERATURE)

6. Reference to the Context

A. Attempt ANY ONE of two extract given.

(A) Lencho showed not the slightest surprise on seeing the money, such was his confidence - but he became angry when he counted the money. God could not have made a mistake, nor could have denied Lencho what he had requested. Immediately, Lencho went up to the window to ask for paper and ink. On the public writing table, he started to write, with much wrinkling of his brow, caused by the effort he had to make to express his ideas. When he finished, he went to the window to buy a stamp which he licked and then affixed to the envelope with a blow of his fist. The moment the letter fell into the mailbox the postmaster went to open it. It said, “God, of the money that I asked for, only seventy pesos reached me. Send me the rest, since I need it very much. But don’t send it to me through the mail because the post office employees are a bunch of crooks. Lencho.” (A Letter to God)

(i) Why was Lencho not surprised when he received the money?

1

(a) Because he knew the post office employees were kind

(b) Because he knew his hard work would pay off

(c) Because he had been lucky in the past

(d) Because he had faith in a higher power

(ii) How did the postmaster MOST LIKELY feel when he read Lencho’s second letter?

2

(iii) Fill in the blank with ONE WORD only.

1

The postmaster rushed to open Lencho’s second letter. This tells us that the postmaster was to know the contents of the letter.

- (iv) Why did Lencho wrinkle his brow when writing the letter? 1
- (a) He was not able to put his thoughts into words.
- (b) He was not sure that God would respond again.
- (c) He was not comfortable writing in front of the others.
- (d) He was not able to calculate how many pesos were missing.

OR

B. The arrival of a stranger at an inn in winter was in any case an unusual event. A stranger of such uncommon appearance set all tongues wagging. Mrs Hall, the landlord's wife, made every effort to be friendly. But Griffin had no desire to talk, and told her, "My reason for coming to Iping is a desire for solitude. I do not wish to be disturbed in my work. Besides, an accident has affected my face."

Satisfied that her guest was an eccentric scientist, and in view of the fact that he had paid her in advance, Mrs Hall was prepared to excuse his strange habits and irritable temper. But the stolen money did not last long, and presently Griffin had to admit that he had no more ready cash. He pretended, however, that he was expecting a cheque to arrive at any moment. (Footprints without Feet)

- (i) In which of these does 'ready' have the same meaning as used in the extract? 1

- (a) Griffin didn't believe that he was ready to speak before the audience.
- (b) The landlord usually got the rooms ready before any guests arrived.
- (c) Mrs Hall said there was a ready supply of food at the hotel.
- (d) The stranger was getting ready to take on new challenges.

- (ii) Complete the analogy by selecting a suitable word from the text. 1

arrival: exit :: : company

- (iii) Which of these is true about the inn? 1

- (a) Its location was remote.
- (b) Its customers were mainly locals.
- (c) It was a popular tourist destination.
- (d) required rent to be paid in advance.

- (iv) Mrs Hall was prepared to ignore Griffin's rudeness and weird behaviour. 2

State two reasons why this was so.

1.
2.

7. Attempt ANY ONE of the two extracts given.

A. Or if some time when roaming round,

A noble wild beast greets you,

With black stripes on a yellow ground,

Just notice if he eats you.

This simple rule may help you learn

The Bengal Tiger to discern.

If strolling forth, a beast you view,

Whose hide with spots is peppered,

As soon as he has leapt on you,

You'll know it is the Leopard.

'Twill do no good to roar with pain,

He'll only leap and leap again.

- (i) Complete the sentence appropriately. 1
The word 'discern' in line 6 of the extract means the same as (Clue: explain contextual meaning here)
- (ii) Identify the poetic devices used in the given stanza. 2
- (iii) State whether the following statement is TRUE or FALSE. 1
The extract tells us the similarities between tigers and leopards.
- (iv) Select the appropriate option to complete the sentence. 1
The tone of the poet when telling how to identify a wild animal is both scary and
- (a) funny (b) exciting
(c) shocking (d) sorrowful

OR

B. (I am Rapunzel, I have not a care;
life in a tower is tranquil and rare;
I'll certainly never let down my bright hair !)

Stop that sulking at once, Amanda !
You're always so moody, Amanda !
Anyone would think that I nagged at you, Amanda !

- (i) Which of these reflects the speaker's tone in the second stanza of the extract? 1
1. Critical 2. Worried
3. Concerned 4. Sympathetic 5. commanding
(a) 1,5 (b) 2,3 (c) 2,4 (d) 4,5
- (ii) Why has line 6 of the extract been referred to as ironical? 2
- (iii) Identify the reason Amanda says she will never let down her hair. 1
(a) She has very short hair.
(b) She likes her hair a lot.
(c) She wishes to be left alone.
(d) She awaits her Prince Charming.
- (iv) Complete the analogy with a word from the extract. 1
life: death :: grinning :

8. Answer ANY FOUR of the following in about 40-50 words each. $4 \times 3 = 12$

- (i) Explain the given statement with reference to Nelson Mandela's dreams. "A winner is a dreamer who never gives up. (Nelson Mandela - Long Walk to Freedom)
- (ii) Give two reasons to support the opinion that Anne's diary is interesting to readers. (From the Diary of Anne Frank)
- (iii) What does 'Fog' tell us about the speaker's relationship with nature? Support your answer with an example from the text.
- (iv) How do we know that bakers were an integral part of Goan society?
- (v) Explain why the author describes Coorg as a piece of heaven that must have "drifted from the kingdom of god? (Coorg)

9. Answer ANY TWO of the following in about 40-50 words each.

$2 \times 3 = 6$

- (i) How did Matilda's belief that she was 'an error of destiny' result in a lifetime of 'sorrow for her'? (The Necklace)
- (ii) The Tehsildar was an agent of change in Bholi's life. Justify. (Bholi)
- (iii) Based on 'The Book That Saved the Earth', state how jumping to conclusions had an unintended consequence for the Martians.

10. Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 100-120 words each.

$1 \times 6 = 6$

- (i) Compare and contrast what Anne from the poem 'Anne Gregory' would look for in a life partner as compared to Natalya from 'The Proposal'. Justify your answer with one example from each of the texts.

OR

- (ii) Explain how the setting of a story or a poem can enhance its plot with reference to 'Dust of Snow' and 'Tea from Assam'.

11. Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 100-120 words each.

$1 \times 6 = 6$

- (i) Based on 'A Triumph of Surgery', state how Mrs Pumphrey did more harm than good to Tricki.

OR

- (ii) Describe the twist in the plot in 'The Midnight Visitor'. Analyse how Fowler's opinion of Ausable must have undergone a change after the plot twist.

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